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do not believe that it is our responsibility nor prerogative to say that I will decide how you will spend the money in your area of excellence, since I am not an expert in each of these areas. I am in favor of the funding program the way it is written in this document for the areas of excellence. The universities on both campuses have responded favorably to this concept instead of adding he is trying to just juggle the figures so they are not as flexible in their decision making as to how their dollars will spend in the areas of excellence. If he were a professor in a particular field I could perhaps see why he would have an interest in perhaps designating how those dollars were spend. I really do not understand, may I ask a question of Senator Cavanaugh? At whose request was this proposal made?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Well the amendment was offered by me.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Cavanaugh on what basis did you decide that you know more than the University professors in this area? And the University administration?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: On the basis that I was elected.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you very much.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Will Senator Marsh yield?

PRESIDENT: YOU don't have the floor. Your light is going to come back on though. Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I don't quite understand Senator Cavanaugh's intent. As long as we all know what the money is going to go for I see no reason to write in such precise language as 6.4 FTE faculty. I'm not sure how they are going to find .4 of a faculty member there. I would point out that.... Frank Lewis says that he knows half a teacher....I would point out that this language also exists for the University of Nebraska, Omaha, and the same phrase and I think that Senator Barnett is suggesting that perhaps that language be amended as well so that we can have 2.3 or 8.9 or whatever the figure over there is, the FTE faculty in Omaha. I think that this is a needless amendment we know where the money is going and this is unworkable language. I would suggest voting against it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, I...

CLERK: I have an amendment by Senator Barnett to the Cavanaugh amendment. Read amendment.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, I think that the amendment speaks for itself, that is all that I'm doing is including the University of Nebraska-Omaha, right along with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. If it is good for one it is good for the other.

PRESIDENT: Were now discussing the Barnett amendment to the Cavanaugh amendment. Senator Keyes.